

Iceland /

Type: Bio

Description: 3 sheets
8 1/2 x 11
bond. Hand
written one
side. Edited
Red pencil

12
1934
45
189

Title: Report on Ben
Fieldwork Edward Jordan
Date 8/7/1934
Place ?

Informant ~~Born 1889~~
~~Iceland~~ → Ben!

Island

To Do

Exposition

3 weeks

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5th. 5th. 5th. 5th. 5th.

6th. 6th. 6th. 6th. 6th.

7th. 7th. 7th. 7th. 7th.

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Iceland

July 1900

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August 7, 1934.

24

Report on Ben —————

A native of Iceland, age 45

Ben left the island on which he was born In 1920, went to Copenhagen, shipped out of there as fireman on a Danish vessel and came to S. F. He worked at various jobs and picked up English which he now speaks quite well and with little accent. He is now employed as a fireman in a stationary plant.

Ben describes Iceland as a small Utopia, says it was wrongly named ~~for~~ the climate is quite mild in the southern part where he lived. The principal industries are sheep raising and fishing.

In sheep herding the flocks are driven to interior ^{meadows} in the summer after they are shorn, and kept there until the snow covers the feed; they are then driven home and sheltered during the winter being fed on fodder.

August 1. 1904

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Report on the

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that has been grown and cured on the farms of the owners.

Fishing for cod and whaling are other productive industries. Great quantities of cod are exported annually.

The return from these two industries keep the island in finances and provide the people with many imports which are necessary to modern living.

The government is an outgrowth of conditions only possible among a small group of people of good hardy stock, and according to Ben is ideal in its form and administration.

Dishonesty and thievery are almost unknown and other crimes and misdemeanors few; this is the result of a good people ~~living almost~~ ^{regarding} each a neighbor of all the rest, a condition due to their isolation, lack of numbers and the limited area of their country.

Ben is an American citizen. He wandered from his island home

for no especial³ reason and wishes
to return and probably will do so
when he gets enough money
together.

Ben's religion is Lutheran but
he still has great respect for
Odin, Thor and the other Norse
Gods. His education in Iceland
was mainly in Danish and Ice-
landic and is what Americans
would class as ~~a~~ ~~of~~ ~~grammar~~
school rating.

^{Norse type} The man is of distinctly:
tall, angular, light complexion
with blue eyes, a fine physical
specimen which according to
him is only the average of
his people. ~~He~~ ~~claims~~ to be a
descendant of the first settlers
who fled from Danish tyranny
about 900 A.D.

Ewan Jordan

